An Oregonian (Hells Canyon)

Cryptomastix populi

Gastropoda — Stylommatophora — Polygyridae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Imperiled (G2)

Statewide: Critically imperiled (S1)

ESA: No status

USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status

BLM: No status IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Limited distribution and habitat threats.

TAXONOMY

No subspecies have been proposed. This taxon is the only described representative of the subgenus *Bupiogona* occurring in Idaho. Frest (e.g., 1999) considered 2 populations to represent undescribed species.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This terrestrial snail occurs primarily in Idaho, but a few populations also occur in extreme northeast Oregon and extreme southeast Washington. Idaho populations occur in the Snake, lower Salmon, and lower Clearwater river canyons.

POPULATION TREND

Frest (1999) considered populations to be declining, noting the apparent extirpation of the species from the lower Clearwater drainage, as well as substantial losses of populations along the Salmon River.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Populations typically occur in basalt talus at the bases along the lower slopes of the river canyons. Sites are xeric and sparsely vegetated with netleaf hackberry, sagebrush, and a variety of forbs and grasses.

ISSUES

Livestock grazing and road construction and maintenance have been noted as the most important threats to this species (Frest 1999).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Site protection is the most important conservation need for this species. Taxonomic relationships among populations of this species, as well as between this and related species, is also important, particularly in the context of understanding relative conservational priorities within this genus.

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